

APPROVED

THE VIRGINIA APPRENTICESHIP COUNCIL MINUTES

The Virginia Apprenticeship Council (Council) met on Thursday, June 18, 2009 at Confederate Hills Recreation Center, 302 Lee Avenue, Highland Springs, Virginia. Chairman Darold Kemp called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Darold Kemp, Chairman
Dee Esser
Gloria Westerman for Glenn Dubois
Robert Bess
Dudley Harris
Earl Dickerson
Catherine McQuade

STAFF PRESENT: C. Ray Davenport, Commissioner, DOLI
Beverley Donati, Division Director
Patricia Morrison, Assistant Division Director
Reba O'Connor, Policy & Planning Specialist
Delores Ferrell, Apprenticeship Representative

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS:

Chairman Kemp called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. He thanked Henrico County Schools for their hospitality in hosting the meeting.

Council members introduced themselves.

Bev Donati of the Department of Labor and Industry introduced the Division of Registered Apprenticeship staff members present, Trish Morrison and Delores Ferrell.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Harvey Crone of Capital Area Partnership for Education Reform announced that there would be a panel discussion on August 4, 2009 at 1:50 at the Career and Technical Conference. The panel is a cross-section of apprenticeship representation and will consist of Dr. Robert Leber, Daniel LeBlanc and Hugh Golthorpe.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

There were no comments offered by Council members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

On proper motion and second the minutes for the Council meeting held on December 12, 2008 and March 19, 2009 were approved by Council members by roll call vote.

CORRESPONDENCE:

There was no correspondence.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bev Donati presented Everett Patterson's report. In December, M.C. Dean requested that Jordan Feltner be recognized. He was killed in an accident coming to work, but would no doubt have been nominated as an Outstanding Apprentice to this Council. The committee approved a resolution which was presented to M.C. Dean. Mr. Feltner's father, also an employee of M.C. Dean will receive the resolution for his family through Marco Pineda, our representative in Winchester.

A motion was made that the action taken by Council on March 19, 2009 to recognize Jordan Feltner posthumously as requested by M.C. Dean and recommended by the sub-committee be approved. The motion carried by roll call vote.

Mr. Seay had a previous commitment which prevented him from being here today. In March, he reported 14 sponsors were eligible for exemption renewal. Nine of those sponsors requested that their exemption be renewed. After reviewing the request, the committee recommended approval for all for a period of four years.

Mr. Seay requested that the actions taken in March be ratified by the council today.

A motion was made that the requests for exemption from licensing examination be approved as presented by the subcommittee on March 19, 2009. The motion carried by roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

The By-laws state that a new Vice Chairman be elected following appointment of a new Chairman. Mr. Earl Dickerson was nominated as Vice Chairman. On proper motion and second, the motion carried by roll call vote.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Exemption from Examination Sub-committee:

Earl Dickerson reported no requests.

Outstanding Apprentice Awards Sub-committee:

Mr. Patterson wrote that there would be some changes to the Outstanding Apprentice Awards.

Awards will be made in two areas vs. one. The committee needs to decide apprenticeship categories/nomenclature. He will have a draft for the committee's review and also requested three or four new members to review the new structure and select nominees.

REPORTS:

Virginia Apprenticeship Alumni Association (VAAA):

Chairman Kemp, also the VAAA President reported that a regular meeting would take place right after the Council meeting to announce the recipient of the 1st Annual Scholarship to a VAAA member.

Gary Duff announced that the annual golf tournament will be held on September 17, 2009 at the Hollows. The cost for a team went up slightly but individual rate stayed the same.

Virginia Employment Commission (VEC):

Commissioner Esser remarked that there does not appear to be a major turnaround in the state unemployment rate yet. Virginia has moved into Tier II as defined by three consecutive months of 6.0% unemployment. That will bring 13 additional weeks of unemployment insurance provided directly by the federal government, not the unemployment insurance trust fund. The fund is currently paying out 25 million dollars per week and could be depleted as early as October, 2009.

The VEC itself is hiring 300 employees and is opening Express offices to handle the volume of claims.

Virginia Community College System (VCCS):

Gloria Westerman said that the VCCS is finishing its year end reports and will be able to report on those numbers at the next meeting. Also, the Wizard, the interactive tool built by VCCS to be a one-stop shop of access to career related links will hopefully have an additional floor that features Registered Apprenticeship. She will arrange a demonstration of the Wizard at a future meeting.

U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship:

No report.

Division of Registered Apprenticeship:

Ms. Bev Donati gave the details of the various grants being utilized by the Division. They are just wrapping up a 25 thousand dollar grant that helped with materials, database and website enhancements. Additionally, the Division was awarded a 400 thousand dollar grant in stimulus funds that is in the MOU stage right now.

Also being worked on are two projects. One is for a dental assistant which is a program that will offer a career pathway. The other is with the Army National Guard which is a pilot program. The best feature of that program is that the occupational titles are also recognized in the private sector so that the credential helps in the transition of the service men and women.

Department of Labor and Industry:

Commissioner Davenport said that the Agency is in another round of budget cuts the amount not yet determined. He reported that the most recent reconvened session cut an additional 237 thousand dollars from DOLI's budget. The Governor announced earlier this week that the statewide budget has an additional hole of 300 million dollars. Commissioner Davenport reported that he along with several other Labor agency heads met with Secretary Solis of the U.S. Department of Labor and discussed issues with the changes in the CFR29 29 regulations.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The next meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2009 tentatively at J. Sergeant Reynolds Community College, North Run offices.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a. m.

Chairman Darold Kemp

C. Ray Davenport, Secretary